

been featured on its Have You Seen Me? direct mail cards.

For fifteen years, ADVO has made a strong commitment to aiding in the recovery and return of missing children. In partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the United States Postal Service, ADVO launched the America's Looking for Its Missing Children program in 1985. Reaching an estimated 79 million home each week with pictures of missing children, the familiar Have You Seen Me? cards are constant reminders to the public that hundreds of thousands of children are missing annually in our country. In total, more than 40 billion pictures of missing children have been distributed to date.

And Americans have responded in an unprecedented way. ADVO announced on July 31st that the recent joyous reunion of a 5-year-old Pennsylvania girl with her mother, following an 18-month abduction, is the 100th safe recovery of a missing child resulting from the familiar mail cards.

One in six children is found as a direct result of programs like ADVO's. It takes just a few seconds of your time to stop, look and think about the children that are featured on posters, on the cards, and on television. Each time you see one, you're presented with an opportunity to reunite a family with their missing child. Once again, congratulations to ADVO on its continued commitment to this very worthy cause.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES
AMPAGOOMIAN, SR.

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life of a man who, throughout his life, gave unselfishly of himself to his town, his community, and his nation. The son of Armenian immigrants, Charles Ampagoomian Sr. was a life long resident of Northbridge (Whitinsville) which has honored him with the dedication of a bridge in his memory.

In 1939, at the age of 17, Mr. Ampagoomian enlisted in the Army where he served until the outbreak of World War II. Serving with the 885th Bombardment Squadron of the Fifteenth Air Force Staff Sergeant Ampagoomian served his nation with honor participating in the campaigns of North Apennines, Naples, Foggia, Southern France, Rome, Arno, Air Combat Balkans, Rhineland, Po Valley, and Northern France. During his service, Staff Sergeant Ampagoomian was recognized by the Army with numerous decorations including the American Theater Campaign Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge with I Oak Leaf Cluster, GO #3325 Hq 15th AF 44, European, African and Middle Eastern Theater Campaign Ribbon, Victory Medal, and American Defense Service Medal with Clasp.

Following the War, Mr. Ampagoomian returned to his native Northbridge (Whitinsville) working for 35 years as a truck driver and union member. He was active in his community serving as past commander of the Whitinsville Veterans of Foreign Wars, a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Armenian Apostolic Church, on the Advisory Board of St. Camillus Hospital, and on the Northbridge Democratic Town Committee.

I know that the entire town of Northbridge joins with me in honoring the memory of Charles Ampagoomian Sr. a man who was dedicated to family and community. Congratulations to his family on this honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I underwent corrective surgery on my hand yesterday, and was not present to record my vote during the consideration of legislation under Suspension of the Rules.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 477, for I supported similar Debt Lockbox legislation in July; and I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 478.

UPON THE DEATH OF ROBERT P. RASCOP, FORMER MAYOR OF SHOREWOOD, MN, VISIONARY ENVIRONMENTALIST AND DEDICATED MINNESOTA PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise sadly to salute a remarkable and visionary public servant from my area in Minnesota who passed away recently.

By any measure of merit, Robert P. Rascop of Shorewood, Minnesota, was one of our nation's best and brightest—a gifted business leader and a truly remarkable local government leader.

He had very special leadership skills, indeed. Bob passed away September 12 after a tragic accident. Bob will be sorely missed by all of us who admired and respected his remarkable public stewardship.

Bob lived in Shorewood for a quarter of a century, near the shores of his beloved Lake Minnetonka. Bob and his loving wife of 35 years, Carol, raised their children Mary and Larry there.

A gifted business leader with NCR for 34 years, Bob still dedicated much of his time, energy and talent to his community. He was a member of the Shorewood City Council and, from 1981 to 1988, Mayor. His leadership was critical during those years as developmental pressures required good planning by city leaders—and strong principles. Bob Rascop was a thoughtful man of the utmost integrity.

For fully two decades, Bob was very active with the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District, an organization which attempts to strike a delicate balance so that both present users and future generations will be able to enjoy Lake Minnetonka.

Bob helped the LMCD with its important work with his great intellect, impressive array of people skills and sense of humor. Deliberations were fair, everyone was heard. And, in the end, Lake Minnetonka's environment was the top priority.

All of us who love Lake Minnetonka owe Bob Rascop a deep debt of gratitude. His vigi-

lance and environmental expertise have been instrumental in protecting Lake Minnetonka. I will always be grateful to Bob for his exceptional leadership and visionary guidance, and my thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 18, I was unavoidably detained from the House Chamber when my flight from Tennessee to return to Washington was canceled. Had I been present I would have cast my vote as follows: rollcall 477—"yes"; rollcall 478—"yes."

HATCH-WAXMAN ACT LOOPHOLES
MUST BE CLOSED

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, the modern day pharmaceutical marketplace was established by passage of the 1984 Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act. The act, commonly known as the Hatch/Waxman Act, gave brand companies longer patent periods to provide them with financial incentive to innovate. The act also gave generic drug companies a streamlined approval process, so they could bring less-costly versions of drugs to market quickly after patents expired.

The Hatch/Waxman Act worked well. Brand companies introduced hundreds of new drugs and grew to become the most profitable industry in the world. Meanwhile, generic companies were able to provide the public with drugs that cost significantly less.

Unfortunately, the brand drug companies were not satisfied with their astounding success. They are now using loopholes in the Hatch/Waxman Act to file frivolous administrative and legal challenges to keep generic competitors out of the marketplace. For example, brand companies are exploiting loopholes in the act to keep generic versions of drugs such as Taxol for cancer and Losec for ulcers out of the marketplace. Each day the brand companies succeed in delaying generic competition, they reap windfall profits at the expense of patients.

The Hatch/Waxman Act is a good law that will be made great when the loopholes are closed and fairness returns to the pharmaceutical marketplace.

HATCH/WAXMAN ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, in 1984, the Hatch/Waxman Act was signed into law to bring order to the pharmaceutical economy